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The Scene

DOOGAL



Doogal divides
father and son
reviewers

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Local woman to
be featured on
'That's Clever'

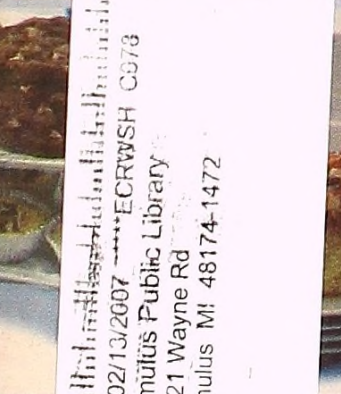
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Feature



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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 118, No. 9

News you can use, news you can trust

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Mustangs
near
undefeated
record
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Metro World site adds more retail

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A Cincinnati-based commercial real estate company, Bear Creek Capital, has signed a deal with the surveyors of the Metro World Center developer to create a retail district within the 1,500-acre site near Wayne and Wick roads.

Romulus City Council members, however, had to re-amend the planned development agreement to allow retailers to set up shop on a 300-acre parcel that was originally earmarked for technology and industrial space.

Metro World representative Doug Ryan said the change was more or less expected because of a lack of interest in technology space in the area.

"We've always said this was market driven, and right now, there's more of a demand for retail and residential space than technology space," he said. "The change is something we believe will galvanize the entire plan."

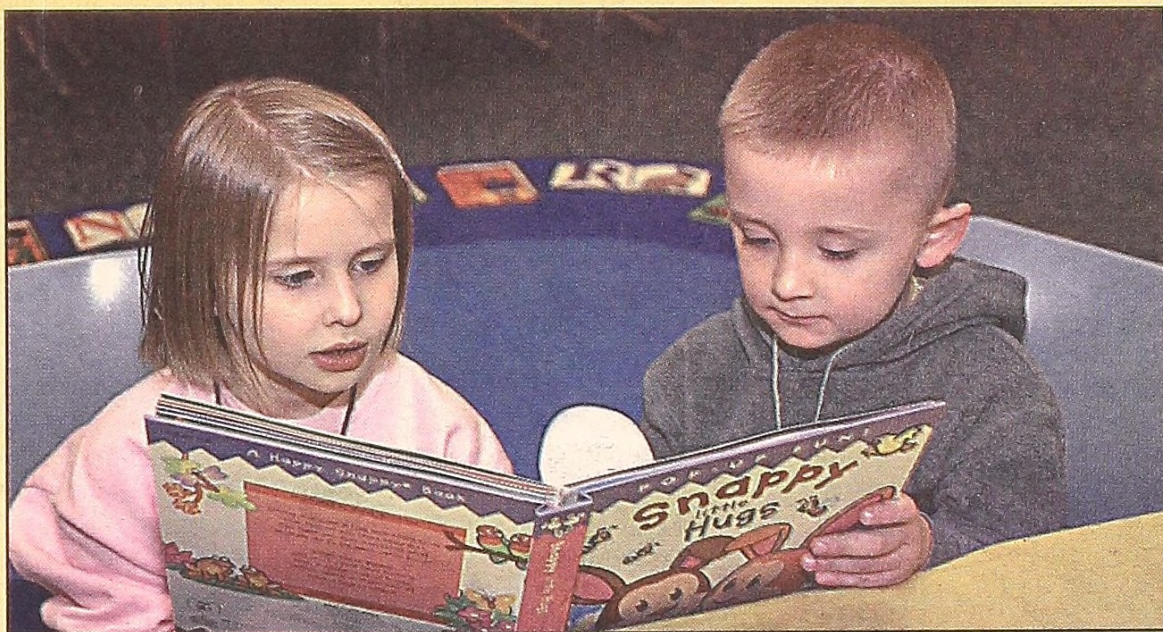
Metro World Center – the long talked about mixed-use development that will eventually house residential, commercial, retail and office space as well as a casino near Detroit Metropolitan Airport – is a concept that has been around for more than 20 years. The goal of the project is to bring more businesses to the city and to residents, but the development agreement has been amended several times, and little construction has occurred.

"I'm just wondering that, if we do this, if there's going to be a shovel in the ground soon," said Councilman William Wadsworth. "We've been looking at that vacant parcel now for 22 years, and it's to the point where something needs to happen there."

Steve Kelly of Bear Creek said the developer's goal is to move through the planning stages as quickly as possible.

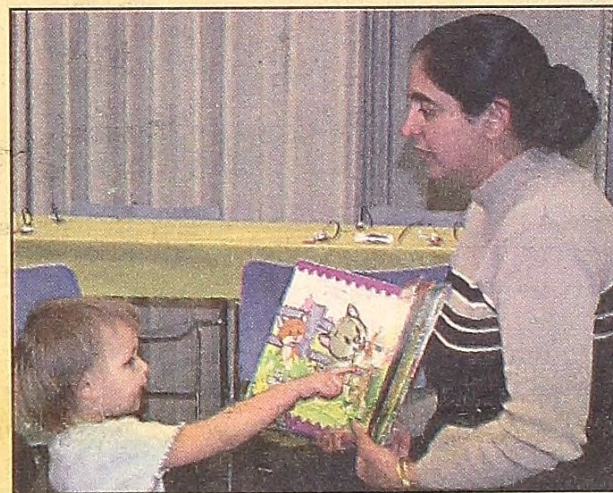
"We've looked at the property, and we do think it has excellent access to the highway," he said. "We've also determined that, while you are still growing in terms of population, that the area is underserved. We're hoping a change here today will allow us to formulate a (development) plan."

See Site, page 3



Reading room

The Romulus Public Library encouraged children to pick up a good book by hosting story time events each Tuesday and Wednesday. Here, Lauren Salmons and Nicholas Terry (above) enjoy a quick read, while library instructor Gurpreet Samra reads to an interested participant.



Councilman arrested in Highland Park

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A newly-elected city councilman and county appointee is in hot water after he was charged with driving a vehicle while intoxicated.

John Barden, 57, appeared in court for a preliminary examination at the 30th District Court in Highland Park. He is charged with operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

The incident that led to the court appearance unfolded during the late evening hours of Jan. 16. Barden was stopped by Wayne County Sheriff's deputies on northbound Hamilton near Grove Street in Highland Park, where they allegedly found Barden slumped over the wheel of his white 2005 Cadillac STS with the engine running. When

officers asked if he was OK, officers noticed his eyes were glazed, and detected the strong odor of alcohol.

Officers also found a bottle of open wine on the front passenger's car seat, and arrested Barden. A preliminary breath test showed his blood-alcohol level to be 0.091 percent. Another showed 0.22 percent – well over the level in which a person can be convicted of misdemeanor drunken driving.

According to the sheriff's report, Barden asked for "professional courtesy" more than once and made sure the deputies knew he worked for Ficano.

"As the subject was escorted to the patrol vehicle, he stated with slurred speech that he was a member of the Romulus City Council along with an executive assistant to (Wayne County



John Barden

Executive Bob) Ficano," the report said. "Subject also stated how disappointed he was in pulling him over and not showing him respect. (The) subject

See Barden, page 3

Ruling limits clerk's absentee process

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Voters whose names are on a permanent absentee ballot list with Romulus will not receive a ballot in the mail for the May 1 school election because of a ruling put into place by a Wayne County judge

Candidates – many of whom request a list of absentee voters so they can send campaign materials to them – will also not be able to obtain the list after Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Mary Beth Kelly instituted a permanent injunction barring any elections clerk from sending out ballot applications.

The ruling was issued as part of the ongoing legal dispute between former Detroit Clerk Jackie Currie and Maureen Taylor, a former city council candidate who last year sued her for voter fraud.

Romulus City Clerk Linda

See Ballots, page 3

Love story

Local couple celebrates 60 years of marriage with hospital staff

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

Days before Valentine's Day, the personal charm and 'happily ever after' romance of one real life Westland couple earned them an anniversary party they will never forget.

In the fall of 1945, William Hartley met his soul mate while out on the town with some friends. Drafted into the Air Force not long before, he had returned to his hometown of Kingsport, TN on leave when a pretty girl talking and laughing with a group of friends caught his eye.

"We met on the sidewalk—walking," he said. "It was like love at first sight."

Her name was Pauline and, six months later, she was his bride.

Sixty years later, the Hartleys have rejoiced in the good times and supported each other through personal tragedies. They have grown and changed in the years since that first chance encounter, but one thing never changed: their love for each other.

"We've been happily married all these years," he said. "We've never been separated—even for a night—except when I was in the service."

The couple—Westland residents for the past 47 years—celebrated their 60th anniversary together on Feb. 10. The party, however, came from an unlikely source—the staff at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne where the couple have stopped by for blood work once a week for the last 15 years.

Their weekly visits were made memorable both by the Hartleys' personalities and the fact that William always had a trick up his sleeve to make the lab staff laugh—literally.

"I do magic myself," he said. "My wife and I used to do stage shows with some of the big artists."

According to Pauline Hartley, it all stemmed from a passing mention, six months ago, of the fact that the couple would celebrate their 60th anniversary in February.

"When we found out from Mr. and Mrs. Hartley (about their anniversary), we said, 'well, we're going to throw you guys a party,'" said patient services employee Danya Hogans. "I marked it on the calendar. It was several months away and that was something I didn't want to forget. They needed



William and Pauline Hartley were touched when several Oakwood Annapolis Hospital employees, including Chris Seyuin, Danya Hogans, and Kim Austin—pictured here with the Hartleys—surprised them with a 60th anniversary party.

to be recognized for the fact that they've been married for 60 years."

Hogans and laboratory support technician Kim Austin headed up a hospital-wide plan that ultimately helped the couple celebrate their anniversary with cake, corsages, and a gift card to their favorite restaurant with their doctor, some members of the hospital staff, and several members of the Hartley family.

"It really shocked us," said William Hartley. "It kind of chokes you up."

Despite the work involved, Hogans said that the Hartleys deserved all of the attention the party could offer.

"People don't stay together that long any more," said Hogans. "They seem like newlyweds. It's nice to know that couples like this are still out there."

Blue Star Banners presented to families of local service men

Earlier this month, American Legion Post 251 presented seven military families from Westland and Canton Township with Blue Star Banners honoring their loved ones.

The blue star banner has been recognized as a symbol of a fami-

ly with a son or daughter in the United States military for nearly a century.

"The Blue Star Service Banner traditionally reminds us all that war touches every neighborhood in our land," said William Acton, post commander

of American Legion Post 251.

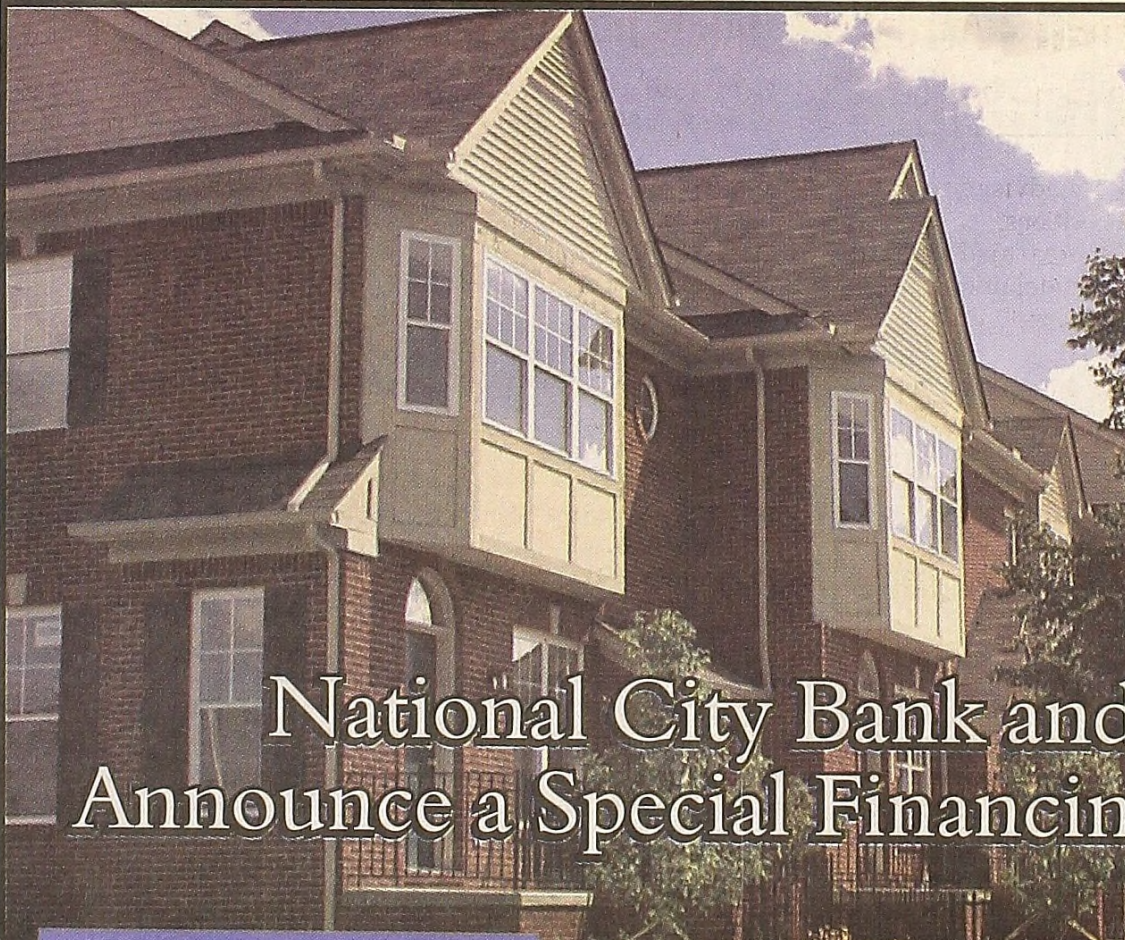
On Feb. 6, the banners were given to the families of U.S. Marines Ryan Bogedin, Christopher Easterday, and Grayson Story, U.S. Air Force service members Kristy Boguslaw and Michelle Rootes, and Pegke

Randall of the U.S. Army. A special three star banner was also presented to Paul Moga and his father in honor of three siblings in the service.

The banners are available free of charge to the family of any man or woman serving in the

armed forces.

Westland and Canton families with loved ones in the military who are interested in participating in the next Blue Star Banner ceremony are asked to contact William Acton of American Legion Post 251 at (734) 326-2607.





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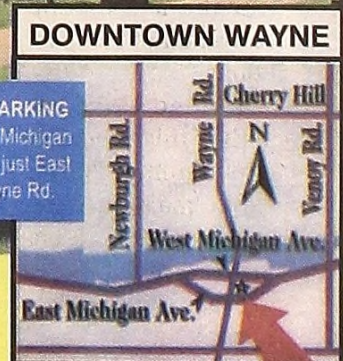
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Council seeks to ban, limit residential beekeeping

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

To bee or not to bee – that was the question for Romulus City Council members.

Council members present voted unanimously to instruct the city attorney to draft an ordinance that would prohibit beekeeping, which is the practice of keeping “bee boxes” or hornet’s nests either as a hobby or for commercial gain. Councilman John Barden was absent from the meeting.

The move was prompted by Cheryl Gilliam, a resident who lives on Barth Street who said her yard is overrun by bees because her neighbors are heavily involved in beekeeping.

“We’ve been here for 12 years, and we

have one grandchild that lives with us and another who is with us for most of the summer months,” she said at the Monday night meeting. “We have an above-ground pool, and bees are attracted to the water. There are times that there are just too many bees in our yard, and I don’t want the kids to get stung.”

Beekeeping – which is a hobby with an unusually dedicated following – is often a vocation. Beekeepers typically will sell the honey produced by bees for profit. However, Gilliam’s neighbors on Huron River Road are not operating a business, according members of the city code enforcement staff.

Though attorneys working for the city are looking at ways to legally prohibit bee-

keeping within city borders, it remains to be seen if such an ordinance would be something the city could enforce.

There are currently no state laws of any kind prohibiting beekeeping, and also no state guidelines beekeepers are bound to follow. Advocacy groups for beekeepers say the hobby is safe as long as a person has enough property.

Council members balked at the notion that someone would have to live with excessive bees for any reason.

“I expect that this would be very difficult,” said Councilman William Wadsworth. “You have someone back there with literally boxes and boxes of these things. Can you imagine if a bunch of kids were outside, and someone knocked

over one of those boxes? The bees would be all over.”

Bee stings – if a person is allergic to the antigen a bee releases into the blood stream – can be fatal. In the United States, more people die from bee stings than they do from snake bites, according to Penn State researchers.

Gilliam said she knows of at least two children in the area that are allergic to bee stings.

Once a draft ordinance is complete, council members will examine the verbiage, then schedule two public hearings to solicit public input. After taking those suggestions into account, the council members will vote to implement, or deny, the ordinance.

News in brief

County executive hosts social hour

Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano has planned a social hour from 2-3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15 at the Romulus House Restaurant.

Residents will have the opportunity to ask the executive questions about neighborhood issues.

The Romulus House Restaurant is located at 9110 Wayne Road at Wick Road. The event is open to the public but registration at (313) 224-0340 must be received by March 13.

Clothes giveaway announced

Middlebelt Baptist Church is having its twice-yearly clothing giveaway from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 11.

Free clothing for men, women, children and infants will be available for people in need at the church, which is located at 943 Middlebelt Road. For more information, call (734) 728-3838.

Oakwood Community Health offers free heart health screenings

Oakwood Community Health will offer free lectures and screenings as part of its “Healthy Hearts for Women” series.

The program was made possible thanks to a donation from the Ford Motor Co. Fund. Registration is not required for the screenings which will take place from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. this Sunday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 2565 Third St., Trenton.

In addition, a number of women’s health screenings are also being offered in cooperation with Life Line Screening to test for a blocked carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and osteoporosis. The screening costs \$8, and registration is required. The dates and locations are from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. tomorrow and March 21 at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia and from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1st John F. Kennedy High School, 13505 Kennedy Dr., Taylor.

Participants are not required to fast for any of the services listed. For more information, call 800.543.WELL or visit www.oakwood.org.

Center seeks blood donors

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Blood bank levels have reached a critical shortage in western Wayne County, and at least one organization is hoping area residents will help change that situation.

Special Tree Rehabilitation System, which provides rehabilitation services to people who have suffered severe brain injuries, will host the Sixth Annual Blood Drive from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. The organization has partnered with the American Red Cross, which will park a “Blood Mobile” in front of the Special Tree NeuroCare Center at 39000 Chase

Road in Romulus.

“We are hoping for a larger number of donors this year,” said Irene Sloan, the blood drive coordinator and corporate secretary for Special Tree. “According to Red Cross statistics, someone needs blood every two seconds, and an auto accident victim may need up to 50 units of red blood cells. As a healthcare organization, we feel it’s important to get the word out and support the Red Cross in getting blood donations.”

Most Special Tree patients are people who have are recovering from traumatic brain injuries, though they serve people with other disabilities. Sloan estimates that about 80 percent of Special Tree clients have been injured as

a result of automobile accidents.

Though the event was planned primarily for Romulus residents, the rehabilitation center is hoping to collect more pints of blood by inviting residents of other municipalities to attend.

First time blood donors are welcome to participate. All donors must bring a valid driver’s license or blood donor card to the event. All donors must be at least 18 years old, and weigh at least 100 pounds.

Pre-registration is preferred, but not required. Donors can register and reserve a time by contacting Irene Sloan at (734) 941-1142, ex. 114, or sending her an e-mail at irenesloan@specialtree.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

Barden - Arrest will likely not affect council seat

FROM PAGE 1

repeatedly advised me of his political positions.”

The report also said that Barden told deputies that if he were mistreated, he would call the media.

Barden was elected to a four-year term on the Romulus City Council in November. He is also a member of the Department of Senior Citizens Services and

Veterans Affairs. Barden is also well-known at Romulus Public Schools, where he often volunteers.

He is the brother of casino mogul Don Barden.

Sharon Banks, a spokeswoman for Ficano, said the executive knew about the allegations, and that there could be ramifications for Barden.

“We’re going to see what the result of the case is before we make any decisions,” she said.

“This will be referred to our personnel department.”

Barden did not return calls to his home or his office on Tuesday. He was absent from the Monday city council meeting in Romulus.

The arrest will likely have little affect on his ability to serve in public office because he was not charged with a felony. Michigan law bars those who have convicted of a felony from serving in elected office.

Ballot - Ongoing absentee lists unlawful, says judge

FROM PAGE 1

Choate told council members Monday night because the injunction specifies she cannot directly communicate with the absentee voters even to tell them they won’t receive an application.

“It’s considered soliciting votes, and it’s unfortunate,” said Choate. “We’ve been doing this as long as I’ve been clerk, and we’ve been treated like we’ve done something criminal, and that couldn’t be farther from the truth.”

The far-reaching consequences could change how elderly and disabled candidates vote, and how candidates go about sending out literature to seek support. Many elected officials said they felt the changes were unfair.

“The candidates will have to change how they do things, but the real tragedy here is that some

people might not be able to vote in the way that they’re used to,” said Councilman William Crova.

For candidates, a list of absentee voters is a cherished commodity because it comprises elderly residents. Older Americans, much more so than their young or middle-aged counterparts, are dedicated voters. According to statistics compiled by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), 70 percent of Americans age 55 or older voted the 2000 election, versus 51 percent of Americans 45 years or younger.

Mayor Alan Lambert said the injunction may actually discourage or confuse voters because the clerk’s office is not allowed to send out a letter to the residents on the list to communicate the changes.

“I’m really concerned about our seniors because they’re used to doing things in a certain way,” he said. “And so many of them

can’t get around like everyone else.”

State Sen. Ray Basham (D-Taylor) will introduce legislation that would allow municipalities to maintain absentee voter lists. He did not immediately return calls seeking comment for this story Tuesday.

The clerk’s office has maintained a list of absentee voters for several years. Before elections, an application would be mailed to each voter on the list. A ballot would only be mailed to the voter if a properly filled out application were returned.

Now, an application can only be mailed if the voter first writes to the clerk’s office, and they will have to make a formal request before each election.

Currie, who lost her bid for reelection in November, violated Kelly’s order not to send out unsolicited absentee ballot applications last year.

Site - Market dictates land use

FROM PAGE 1

Kelly was not able to name retailers he believes would be interested in locating at the site, but said he has worked with several that have expressed an interest in coming to Michigan. Some council members voiced concern that the individual retailers, after the agreement was modified, would not be up to their expectations.

“I think we need to know from you whether this is major retail,” said Councilman Harry Crout. “We want a major mall in there if at all possible. I don’t think we want a strip mall.” Kelly told Crout he felt the interest among bigger retailers to come to the city existed.

Bear Creek is not completely new to Michigan, though most of their developments are in Ohio. Recently, the company completed a smaller development in

Benton Harbor.

A remaining question is whether the loss of technology space on the site signals a shift in the city economy because those high-paying jobs would not be coming to Romulus. Mayor Alan Lambert said he doesn’t feel that’s the case.

“Technology companies seem to be going more to Oakland County, where they’ve put a lot of effort into attracting those companies to places like Troy,” he said.

“And we do need retail – people need someplace to shop, and they’ve told us that’s what they want.”

Any projects proposed by Bear Creek will have to be approved by the planning commission and the city council. The developer said he would return to the city to do a presentation with photographs, so they will have a better idea of how the site plan might pan out.

OPINION

An eagle not a 'bogey'

A proposal to sell off a portion of the Fellows Creek Golf Course and replace it with an outdoor mall was destined to stir up some controversy.

Whenever a governmental body considers selling land at the perceived expense of nearby residents, those residents are bound to show up and voice their dissatisfaction with the plan.

We were a little surprised, though, to see the Canton Township Board of Trustees take so much heat for even considering it.

That's what happened, though, as dozens of residents turned up at a study session and complained that board members were entertaining the offer.

We'd be a little upset if they didn't.

Consider this: township officials weren't actively trying to sell the land. They didn't send out any bids or request and proposals. The Lormax Stern Development Co. and Grand Sakwa Properties came to the township and offered \$17 million for about half the roughly 200-acre course.

The proposal, though, would provide a remarkable windfall for the township. It's an incredible return on their investment – they paid only \$1 million for the land – and it would provide a guaranteed revenue stream of about \$600,000 per year, funds that would help reduce the tax rate for all Canton residents. This offer comes at a time when all municipal officials—the good ones, anyway – are looking toward to the future to try to build sustainable communities. Many other municipalities would probably envy Canton's position in this.

Whether a proposed 'lifestyle center' would be the best use of the land remains to be seen. There's a lot to like about the sprawling outdoor type malls; urban planners tend to like them because they emulate downtowns in areas without them and they fight typical suburban sprawl. There's a lot to dislike about them, too, particularly the traffic issues they can bring along with them.

It's true that Canton has never had a problem attracting development and they may not need such a facility now. Officials, though, are given the task of looking further down the road. We think it'd be a dereliction of their duty to ignore the proposal entirely.

Should they go ahead with the sale? We're not sold on that, although it may be difficult to say no, in the end. Should they consider it? Absolutely.

Council made right decision

Officials in the City of Westland made the right decision last week, when they rejected a request to place a Napa Auto Parts store on a prime corner.

Westland City Council members voted unanimously to reject the proposal, which would have placed the 5,760-square-foot store next to the Big Lots on the corner of Ford and Wayne roads. The decision followed a recommendation from the city planning commission.

Citing concerns about one of the main entrances to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the sustainability of that vital district, they said it would be a good decision in the long run, even if it means a vacant store front in the short term.

We agree.

In some ways, it's a risky decision, too. Developers are always looking for municipalities that are easy to deal with, and businesses aren't exactly opening up anywhere at a quick pace nowadays.

It's important to remember, though, that being easy to work with doesn't mean officials have to accept everything that comes their way with the philosophy that something is better than nothing. It's

See **Decision**, page 6



Wayne 'Let the good times roll'

I bet everyone who tries to pull off a successful family event envisions a good crowd and plenty of laughing children.

It's tough to do, too: reach across age groups to make sure that everyone has a good time and the success will build with each coming installment.

So I hope those in the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department that worked so hard to pull off the first Mardi Gras event at the Wayne Community Center realize that, while it may not have met their expectations, it was still a pretty good time.

The event took place Saturday at the Wayne Community Center. One portion of it – during the day – was geared toward children and families. The other – at night – was designed for an older crowd.

I hit both and for the first part had my son, Henry, in tow.

It wasn't a particularly good day for him, either. He woke up earlier than usual – that's about 5 a.m., for anybody who cares – and that meant it wasn't a particularly good day for me, either. So by the time the indoor parade rolled around, the boy was ready for a nap. I was too.

OK, the parade was a little short and not too well attended. It was still fun, aided by a magician who entertained people in the lobby. Goofy costumes, a man on stilts, where else are you going to find that in the middle of February? Henry liked the beads, too, and the noisemaker.

Given his over-tired state of mind and fading (but still active) fear of clowns, I assumed that Henry and I would leave after the parade and I could take him somewhere that, even if he did embarrass me with a pre-nap fit, it wouldn't be in front of anyone I know.

Goofy costumes, a man on stilts, where else are you going to find that in the middle of February?

Then he smelled the popcorn.

So we wandered into the main room at the center, where clowns were making balloon animals and a magician was setting up for his show. Henry took a seat in the front row, and I sat a couple rows behind him.

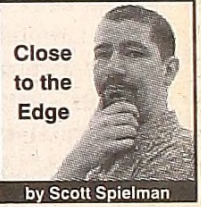
Nate the Great took the stage shortly after that with a 45-minute show that the kids thoroughly enjoyed. Henry squealed like, well, like an excited little boy and even got up on stage to help out. He might have helped out a little too much, pointing out inaccuracies in Nate's prepared routine, but hey, that's probably the editor in me filtering down to the 5 year old. Their parents were chuckling, too, and I admit I even cracked a smile a couple of times. Good fun.

There were other things going on, too, arts and crafts, a juggler later on, but we couldn't stay for those.

Later, though, the dueling piano show attracted my attention. There was room for a few more people at the show, but the crowd was festive and responsive. Requests filtered in, people took part. The guys were good, too, as anybody that saw the show can attest.

I might have been a bit skeptical, at first, but I had a good time. I know Henry liked it, too.

It's tough to find good family events, sometimes, particularly during the middle of winter. I think the parks and recreation department should be commended for coming up with a new event, thinking about new things. I hope to the event comes back next year and more residents take part.



Close to the Edge
by Scott Spielman

Economic recovery depends on jobs

Ahh, the Sunshine State.

Those are words that conjure images of blue seas, white sands, mild weather, and drinks with umbrellas – things many of us battling the Michigan snow dream of.

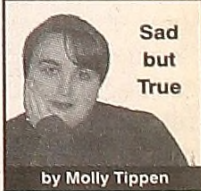
For many of the laid off and employed teachers in Michigan, the State of Florida could mean something else: economic opportunity.

Today at the Southfield Marriott Hotel, recruiters from several Florida school districts are working doggedly to lure away some of our state's greatest resources – our teachers – at a job fair. The recruiter's goal is to fill 13,000 vacant teaching positions after a chunk of that state's aging educator base retired.

That has officials in this state balking, because, of course, we can't afford to lose teachers to another state.

But the fact of the matter is, we apparently can't afford to keep them, either. And we've created a difficult employment environment – not only for educators – but for other young professionals as well. And other states are catching onto this.

Teachers – who have an important job and who have traditionally enjoyed job protections from unions and good benefits, even if the pay is low in some districts – were dealt a blow about 10 years ago when "charter schools" started popping up throughout the state. Our esteemed legislators thought this would create competition among schools, which would then improve educational quality at the public school level.



Sad but True
by Molly Tippen

See **Jobs**, page 6

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Jobs

FROM PAGE 4

The results – according to No Child Left Behind test scores – is that the charter schools are not performing any better than their public counterparts, and that, in some cases, they aren't doing as well.

So how does this relate to the job fair in Southfield?

The teaching positions we have in Michigan are generally at charter schools, where the pay is substantially lower, the benefits cost more, and there is no union to ensure raises or improve job security. And because charter schools drained students and per-pupil funding from the public system, there are fewer jobs available in that sector.

And that's what charter schools were supposed to do. Wrapped in the guise of improving education, charter schools, I believe, were supposed to bust the powerful teachers union. But no one in state government when the charter school law was enacted could conceive of the fact that, eventually, residents would not

sign on for this.

I know a charter schoolteacher who has taught for six years, and can't seem to get into a public school district. She enjoys where she works, and she likes the students. But she also can't afford to leave her parents' home, which is a problem. She's now testing the waters in other states. I don't expect she'll stay here; if I were in her shoes, I'd leave, too.

We talk about making a college education easier for residents to obtain, but we're unwilling to create the opportunities necessary for them to thrive. There are many examples of this in the private sector – too many to go into in this space.

The bottom line is that we can't keep residents with or without a college education working, and that, more than lifestyle issues or the weather, is going to force young people to settle elsewhere. Even the jobs that have been created are temporary positions, which are not sustainable for workers. Just look at the employment ads in either of the daily newspapers.

We need to provide better opportunities than that, if the state is to come back. It's the jobs, stupid.

use would have detracted from the overall site – the poster board sign at the edge of the lot shows an attractive building that would have been wasted on something like that. The corner will already suffer from the continued existence of the Big Lots store, there was no reason to hinder it any further.

The Ford-Wayne corner is one of the busiest around, too. It will certainly attract something that is more worthy of the City of Westland, something that will fit in better to the long range plans and help improve the district and the community overall. Indeed, it would make a good site for almost anything else.

Conflict continues over joint police dispatch

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Officials from Belleville and Sumpter Township have conflicting views about the direction their police dispatch services are headed.

Sumpter Township intends to continue to operate the Central Dispatch Network (CDN) if Belleville withdraws, therefore the township would retain all the equipment. However, Belleville feels that a single intergovernmental unit does not have the ability to continue to operate under the original contract agreement.

Melvin Turner, police chief of Sumpter Township, said the township is not leaving CDN.

"It was formed through a contractual agreement and it exists until all parties withdraw from the existing contract," he said. "We won't disband operations because of them leaving. So that means we would get all the equipment."

Belleville City Manger Steve Walters said the city and township are heading toward a mutual agreement on the sharing of the equipment, with Sumpter Township taking most or all of the equipment.

In total, more than \$120,000 worth of

equipment could be transferred to Sumpter Township.

"Van Buren Township has already stated that they're up and operating and don't need the equipment," said Turner. "Belleville also thinks we should have to pay for the equipment."

Walters said there are still technical questions that have to answered such as: how long will Sumpter Township need to continue CDN at the Belleville municipal building after the withdrawal takes effect, is there enough room for the dispatch center and how will prisoner needs be handled by Sumpter alone.

Administration and the Belleville city attorney, according to Walters, are currently reviewing equipment issues and other concerns.

Turner said Sumpter Township is still in the dark as to where exactly the proceedings are going.

"We don't have too much information from Belleville or Van Buren Township about if the contract has even been accepted, yet," he said. "But, we're still making contact and preparing to move CDN to Sumpter. We're trying to make a pleasant separation, if possible, for all parties involved."

Internet sales seminar planned

A popular workshop –Conquering eBay—will come to the area from 7-10 p.m. tomorrow at the Comfort Inn, located at the I-94 Service Drive in Belleville.

The Belcher McPherson Auction Co. will teach class participants how they can make the most of their Internet efforts on the popular resale site. Kevin Belcher, will be the instructor.

According to the organization, auctions are the easiest and best way to secure quality merchandise to sell on eBay. The workshop will supply tips on how to use auctions to sell on eBay and have more fun

doing it while making greater profits. It will benefit both new sellers and experienced ones, they said.

The session will start Friday and continue at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Belleville. Participants can get their hands-on experience with the process of an auction.

The class costs \$45 and includes a computer CD containing tools to help make participant's eBay efforts successful.

For more information or to register, call 1(888) 781-7100 or visit www.belcher-mcpherson.com/auctions.php.

Decision

FROM PAGE 4

OK to push for more. If developers really want to put up the best thing for the host community, they'll agree. If they're only concerned with making a quick buck, they'll go elsewhere. We'd frankly like to see more of that.

Let's face it, the preponderance of other auto-related uses nearby in some ways made this an easy decision. There simply wasn't a need for a new one. The

BOARD OF REVIEW - CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN FOR 2006 ASSESSMENTS NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, on the following dates:

March 7, Tuesday
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

March 13, Monday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 15, Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To review property assessments for 2006. Taxpayers/property owners may file an appeal of assessment(s) to the Board of Review in **WRITING** without personal appearance. **Letters of appeal must be received on or before March 16, 2006.**

Those taxpayers wishing to **appeal in person, please call the Township by March 14, 2006** at 734.699.8946 to set an **APPOINTMENT** to meet with the Board of Review on any of the above dates.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: February 16,2006
February 23, 2006
March 2, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION CHANGE OF LOCATION

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold meetings as described below on the South side of Van Buren Township to be held at **South Middle School; 45201 Owen Street**, City of Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111.

The South Side Master Plan Amendment workshop meetings will take place on selected Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. during regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meetings.

South Side of Charter Township of Van Buren Master Plan Amendment workshop meetings are as follows:

March 8, 2006
May 24, 2006
August 23, 2006

March 22, 2006
June 28, 2006

April 26, 2006
July 26, 2006

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

In the spirit of compliance with the American Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Posted: February 24, 2006
Publish: March 2, 2006
March 16, 2006
April 13, 2006
May 18, 2006
June 22, 2006
July 20, 2006
August 17, 2006



Rolling along

Mary Fassett, above, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday, was honored by Sen. Bruce Patterson (R-Canton), Phil LaJoy (R-Canton) and Governor Jennifer Granholm on the special occasion. Fassett and her son, Dennis, of Belleville, show-off the special tribute at her birthday party at the Oxford Lanes in Dearborn. Fassett still bowls twice a week and averages about 115 per game.

Water main repairs on Brain Street get council OK

Clear water will flow from a major water main in downtown Belleville now that members of the city council approved the replacement of the pipe on Brain Street.

According to Keith Boc, director of public services, the main on Brain Street has delivered rusty-colored water to residents for several years. The Belleville water department has been flushing the hydrant on the street for more than a year in an attempt to clean the water from the pipe, but residents at the end of the water main continue to have discolored water and flush their water heaters on a regular basis to avoid ruining clothes.

Boc said the water main on Brain Street was installed some time during the 1940s. It is a 4-inch main connected to a 6-inch main on High Street that dead ends at the end of Brain Street. It has been repaired at least six or seven times in the last 10 years, he said.

The main is one of three dead end water mains in the City of Belleville, Boc added. The rest of the system is looped, which means the water comes from more than

one direction. When a system is looped, it increases pressure as well as flow that creates an abundance of sediment or deposits that sit at the bottom of the main. Those sediments can then create rusty looking water and can deteriorate the main itself.

The water department flushes water mains around the city every year to remove the sediment that may accumulate. The Brain Street main is flushed weekly, but with an insufficient amount of pressure on a dead end water main, sediments can't be adequately removed by flushing.

Now, the city will replace the water main on Brain Street and will tie it into the West Columbia water main and create a loop for Brain Street. It will create more pressure and a loop on Brain Street and add more pressure to a 6-inch line that is under sized on West Columbia, said Boc.

"The loop is going to improve everything," Boc said. "The only issue is the main on Brain Street could create more water main breaks. If that occurs, we could come back and replace it all the way down."

THE CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Bid 05/06-25, Seven (7) Marked Police Vehicle Changeovers w/Lightbars
- Bid 05/06-28, Fourteen foot, Dump Body Replacement
- Bid 05/06-29, Vehicles
- Bid 05/06-30, Ammunition for RPD
- Bid 05/06-31, Two (2) Trailers for Building & Grounds Mowers
- Bid 05/06-32, Three (3) Year Weed Cutting Contract

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above item/s and/or service/s.

- (1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids **must do so on forms provided by the City**. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Lynn A. Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by emailing lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us or on the City of Romulus Web Site, www.romulusgov.com
- (2) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the **City Clerk's Office** no later than 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 09, 2006. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE BID NUMBER AND NAME AND BE ADDRESSED TO:

BID #
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan, 48174

- (3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: March 2, 2006

Belleville must modify use of grant funds in city

Andrea King
Staff Writer

A change in the allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds means Belleville will have to modify the city program.

City Manager Steve Walters said the county has advised all communities that fund service programs that those allocations must be reduced by 20 percent because of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) limitations.

"Most communities spend about half their grant funds in this," he said. "It was a larger total than HUD expected and because of the demand they had to have some method of reduction."

"For many years, HUD has maintained limits on the amount of CDBG funds that could be allocated by the county for general municipal planning and public services," Walters added.

Because proposed Belleville projects were all service programs, the county has re-allocated the CDBG funds to \$42,750 for un-programmed senior services and \$14,250 for un-programmed public improvements. The intended \$57,000 from the county program

should remain the same.

Now, the city—along with others in the county—are in a 'waiting period', which gives Belleville City Council members the opportunity to decide exactly how the program portion should be used.

Councilmember William Creamean said he would like to see fellow council members consider building bus stops for the elderly.

"The bus stops would be used exclusively for the seniors," he said. "Also, I heard that this year these funds are about \$1 billion less so they are shrinking and if we don't do something now we never will."

Belleville is a single census tract without a low-moderate income area. Therefore, the city is limited to CDBG—a program funded by the federal government and HUD—projects and services, which include senior citizens or disabled persons, direct benefits to individual low-moderate income residents and general planning purposes.

The city originally designated \$10,000 toward the September Days Senior Center, \$37,000 to senior transportation and \$10,000 to a senior chore maintenance service.

Belleville will host another public hearing to re-direct the current grant allocation.

Township names new deputy director

Jennifer Morris, a former recreation manager for Van Buren Township, was recently appointed Deputy Director of the Van Buren Township Recreation and Facilities Department.

According to Bruce Ross, director of recreation and facilities, Morris has created an award winning recreation program of the highest quality and professionalism. She

has supervised staff as the recreation manager and has been instrumental in obtaining recreation program grants.

In addition to serving as a deputy director, Morris will continue to provide oversight to the township recreation department.

Morris is a lifetime resident of Van Buren Township. She is also a graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE 2006 BOARD OF REVIEW

To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, (Lower Level) Community Room, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and times by **APPOINTMENT ONLY** for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll.

Meeting dates are as follows:

	Residential
March 13, 2006:	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
March 14, 2006:	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

	Commercial/Industrial
March 15, 2006:	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Review is by appointment only

Residents and Non-Residents alike may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board OR (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review MUST receive all written appeals no later than March 15, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. All Representatives or Agents MUST submit (current) proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

To schedule an appointment, please call the City of Romulus, Department of Assessment at (734) 942-7520 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Publish: February 23, 2006
March 2, 2006
March 9, 2006

THE SCENE

DOOGAL

Film prompts divided reviews

Movie failed to appeal to all audiences

What do Judi Dench, Ian McKellan, Whoopi Goldberg, Chevy Chase, William H. Macy and Jon Stewart have in common?

They are among the top voice talent performers that should have passed on the chance to lend their vocals to *Doogal*, a bizarre new family film that opened last weekend.

In it the main character is a dog named Doogal (Robbie Williams), a kind of combination of Gromit and a shag carpet. He's determined to undo one of his mistakes, which released the evil wizard Zeebad (Stewart), whose body is half spring, like a slinky with a puppet on top. Zeebad is intent on freezing the world. His moustache emits a freeze ray.

Among his first victims is Florence (Kylie Minogue), Doogal's best friend, who is trapped in a frozen carousel when Zeebad escapes.

Along with his friends: a cow named Ermintrude (Goldberg); a snail named Brian (Macy) and a sort of stoned out rabbit, Dylan (Jimmie Fallon) and a good half-spring wizard, Zebede (McKellan), he sets out to find the three diamonds that will reverse Zeebad's curse and return spring to the land, and assumedly, summer and fall, too. Dench narrates this sad tale.

This is apparently not their first adventure; an internet search turned up something called *The Magic Roundabout*, released on DVD last year, which apparently tells how Zeebad was encased in the carousel to begin with.

I'm as open-minded as the next guy when it comes to family type films, but this one escaped me. I couldn't tell who it was geared for: children or adults. The good family films will have in-jokes the parents will laugh at, while the majority of the script is designed to entertain younger audiences.

This tried to do that; there were plenty of winks at McKellan's Gandalf character from the *Lord of the Rings* Trilogy, for example. When a character gets one of the diamonds, he slips into a lisping: 'My precious,' reminiscent of Gollum, then ruins it by saying: 'Just kidding.'

No matter how you look at it, though, none of the

'inside jokes' worked. In fact, not many of the jokes worked, at all. Stewart, so good on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, is totally miscast here. Maybe he'd be happy to hear that. His comedic timing is off, as is that of the rest of the cast, which is a bit surprising considering the presence of Goldberg, Fallon and Chevy Chase (he voiced the train).

Maybe the film tried to do too much: part children's movie, part Indiana Jones, part Tolkein parody. Whatever it tried to do, though, it didn't succeed. It was oddly disjointed for a film that, by its own definition, was supposed to provide a lesson in togetherness.



Kid's corner

By Henry Spielman



Don't listen to my dad. This was a good movie. I liked the train that took them everywhere and was sad when he got hurt. He came back in the end, though.

The snail (Brian, voiced by William H. Macy) was silly when he yelled 'Charge!' and 'Run Away!' I think he liked the cow (Ermintrude, voiced by Whoopi Goldberg).



Reviewed By
Scott Spielman
Editor

Local artist featured on Home and Garden network

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

Plymouth residents may see a familiar face if they tune in to the Home and Garden Television Network (HGTV) next month.

Kathy Weinberg, a Plymouth resident who works with polymer clay, will be featured on the cable network at the end of March.

"It was a really interesting experience," Weinberg said.

Last summer, HGTV sent a production crew to the Metro Detroit area to film artists for their television program, *That's Clever*. They spent an entire day in Weinberg's home filming two segments for the show.

Weinberg said the crew the

station sent wired her for sound and had her do some interesting things around her home. She said the show has a tendency to be off the wall and a little wacky.

Weinberg started her artistic career as a hobby after the Sept. 11 attacks. Everyone else was making remembrance pins at the time and she couldn't find red, white, and blue ribbons.

"I started out making Christmas ornaments. I learned from a number of online sources," Weinberg said. "It kind of snowballed from there."

Since then she's sold some of her pieces to galleries in North Carolina and Virginia. She also has three small craft shows a year to showcase her work.

"I was doing it for fun until my husband told me I had some tal-

ent," Weinberg said. "I started making things for his co-workers and someone told me I should try to sell some things."

She has a web site, kathyweinberg.com. She's a member of the National Polymer Clay Guild and the Metropolitan Detroit Polymer Art Guild. Weinberg also volunteers as an Education Coordinator for that organization, whose goal is to promote polymer clay as an art form.

She said people who know her will learn more when they see the show.

"For a lot of people who know me, they don't really know what I do," Weinberg said. "They'll discover what I do and how serious I am about it."

The show will air at noon and 5 p.m. on March 29 on HGTV.



Plymouth resident Kathy Weinberg, a polymer clay artist, will be featured on a segment of the Home and Garden Television Network show *That's Clever*.

Eagle eye

Cemetery clean-up helps local teen earn highest ranking in Boy Scouts

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

There are names like Pardee and Wick on headstones at the Oak Grove Cemetery, and others often associated with local streets.

But also interred there is 14-year-old David Forbush's great aunt Marian Steeber, who, in a roundabout way, guided the student to perform his Eagle Scout public service project at the cemetery, which is located on Burr Road in Taylor.

"I just noticed that there were a lot of branches lying around, and that some of the grave stones were not well kept," said Forbush, who is a freshman at Romulus High School. "I just thought it was sad, but then I had the idea to clean it up for my project."

So, the soon-to-be Eagle Scout immobilized a small army of 50 scouts from Troop 1742 and six volunteers from the Jesus Christ Church of Latter Day Saints in Westland on Oct. 21, and with donated supplies from local businesses, the group cleaned the headstones, bagged up the brush and leaves that littered the cemetery.

As the largest municipal cemetery in Taylor, Oak Grove was designated a Michigan Historical site in 2000. The first burial took place there in 1838. But keeping the cemetery maintained was daunting for the city, which has suffered from the same budget ills as many Michigan municipalities, said City Clerk Mary Ann Riley.

These are very challenging budget times right now," she said. "These cemeteries do not have a perpetual upkeep fund, so we're really just doing basic maintenance there. When (Forbush) offered to do this, I thought to myself that this was really wonderful. I have some Eagle Scouts in my family, and I know something about their projects, and I thought this one was really creative."

The project began early in the morning, Forbush said. A City of Taylor Department of Public Works supervisor helped with turning on the fire hydrant providing water to clean the headstones. By the time the project concluded a few days later, dirty headstones were cleaned and edged, and more than 70 bags of branches and leaves were bagged and removed.

Forbush — whose responsibilities included recruiting volunteers and asking local businesses for financial and in-kind support — said he's happy with the results of the project.

"It looks really good now, and I think it helped a lot of people," he said. "I enjoy that very much."

Several businesses, including Hungry Howies, Subway, Pizza Barn, Cottage Inn, Toarmina's Pizza, Pizza Hut, Do-It Best, ACO Hardware, and Romulus Hardware donated everything from food to keep the troops energized to cleaning supplies.

Earning the rank of Eagle Scout is not an easy task for young men. Only 4 percent of boys who start out in scouting reach Eagle status. Achieving that end means the scout must



Fourteen-year-old David Forbush poses in his Eagle Scout uniform.

successfully move through the ranking system, then identify a service project in their community. To earn the rank of Eagle Scout, 337 hours of community service must be completed.

Faith Sheptowski-Forbush, David's mother, said scouting has proved to be a positive extension of the values he's learning at home.

"We're very proud of what he's done at the cemetery, and with the scouts," she said. "I always knew he was capable of something like this. But we received a lot of positive feedback from the volunteers, and they were impressed with David's leadership abilities."

Now in the ninth grade, Forbush said he wants to continue with the Eagle Scouts. An A and B student, he said he's planning a career in computers.

Outstanding alumnus sought

John Glenn High School administrators are seeking nominations of former graduates who have made a difference since graduation for the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Each year, as the current class of graduates prepares to cross the stage, they witness firsthand what someone who was in their place not all that long before has achieved when the Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented.

"We feel that successful graduates, such as these, could have a positive motivational effect on the graduating seniors as well as the school community and the faculty," said Robyn Brennan of John Glenn High School.

There are no set criteria as

to what will set the nominees apart. The request for nominees asks only that individuals nominate, "a John Glenn graduate who has truly earned distinction in their field of endeavor following graduation."

All nominees will be reviewed by the faculty council before the honoree for this year is selected. In order to be considered, nominations must be received within the next few weeks. Nominations are accepted all year long and nominee suggestions are carried over from year to year. To nominate a graduate for the award, contact Brennan at the high school, 36105 Marquette Road, Westland, MI 48185. For more information, phone (734) 419-2300.

Atchinson Ford plans get OK

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Atchinson Ford in Belleville will soon have a new home now that members of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved the project last week.

"A positive here is it's an existing business that's doing something here, especially one that's prominent," said Bryce Kelley, director of planning and economic development for the township. "We're excited they decided to re-invest here."

The Pacific Centers L.L.C. of Washington will build the 24,000 square-foot dealership on about 9 acres of land located at Belleville and Tyler roads. When complete, it will include a new car showroom, service bays and a service and parts department.

Approval by the planning commission was delayed last June to

allow further public comments and findings specific to an automobile dealership.

Traffic concerns—typically an issue on Belleville Road—were also a factor.

"The township was not too clear about the way car dealers worked in terms of traffic so we had to learn," said Kelley. "The developers were proposing three curb cuts on Belleville Road and we wanted to make sure that traffic would flow. It took about eight months, but we learned and found out the three curb cuts were necessary."

Planning commission members also felt that the extra driveway access, a five-lane and new center turn lane at the site and the quality and style of the landscaping plan proposed were needed.

"Even though a car dealership only gets about 20 cars a day, based on a review of the use of the

site, the need for large car hauling trucks to safely enter and exit the site without cause of backup or congestion on Belleville Road was a concern," said Kelley. "Likewise, after reviewing the landscaping plan the commissioners agreed the proposed layout will present a quality image along the roadway corridor. They've been fairly enthusiastic about that and it still allows people to see the cars from the road."

Trustees also approved a special land use for the developer to construct a bank with a drive-through facility and in-line retail center adjacent to the proposed dealership at the northeast corner of Belleville and Tyler roads. The development is more than 24,000 square-feet of retail building on about 2 acres of land.

Kelley said once the engineering plans are complete construction should start in the summer.

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Timbers Edge in Taylor • The Abbeyes of Westland • Other Classic Tradition Communities in North Carolina

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SPORTS

19 down, 1 to go
Mustangs near undefeated record

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

basket. Northville had doubled Stevenson's score, 32-16, by the end of the first half.

Northville's Brandon Barkoski opened the third with a two baskets, extending the team's lead further, 36-18. The teams traded baskets the rest of the way with Northville leading, 46-32, at the end of the period.

Chris Lorente nailed a couple of triples in the final frame to maintain an 18-point lead. As it is told, 'the rest is history.'

Storrs led Northville with 18. Lorente added 13.

Anthony Lenardon led the Spartans with 17, including four three-pointers.

Northville Coach Darrel Schumacher attributes the win to team play.

"We had a lot of kids contribute," he said. "That's been the strength of the team this season. Barkoski forced some turnovers to make things happen. Storrs hit some free throws, Lorente hit some threes and (Bret) Spencer was rebounding coming off the bench—there was a lot of contribution."

Western 51, Northville 53

Northville managed to hold off Walled Lake Western, 53-51, in what would be a wild fourth quarter of play last Tuesday in Northville.

In the first 3:31 of the fourth quarter, with Northville clinging to a 39-37 lead, the two teams alternated five triples, resulting in a tie game with 4:29 left to play. At the 2:49 mark, Kaldis stole an



Northville senior Brandon Barkoski (20) blocks a shot by Walled Lake Western senior Denard Branch. As of Tuesday night, Northville was one game away from tying the school's all-time undefeated record of 20-0. Photo by Lynn Kirkpatrick

inbounds pass and fed Lorente, who put it in the basket and drew a foul. He converted the shot to put Northville up, 49-46. Lorente and Storrs made clutch one-and-one free throws down the stretch to hold off the Warriors. Western's Denard Branch nailed a last-second

triple to pull his team to within two, 53-51, but that was as close as they would get.

Storrs led the Mustangs again with 22, including 9-of-11 from the stripe. Lorente added 15.

See Mustangs, page 10

Belleville falls to
Truman, tops Ypsilanti

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

There is always one player that the outcome of a close game between two good teams rests upon.

That weight was bestowed upon Belleville's Leon Freeman on Friday night against the Ypsilanti Braves. As one of the top players in the state, Freeman should be familiar with the pressure.

With about 10 seconds left, he showed that he was. The Tigers were down by one, 46-45, when Freeman took a pass from the top of the key. He eluded Ypsilanti senior Woody Payne and two other defenders to make a left-handed lay-up. The shot lifted the Tigers over the Braves, 47-46.

The victory also secured at

least a share of the Mega Red Conference crown for Belleville—the team's sixth in as many years.

There were still seven seconds left after Freeman's play, giving the Braves a chance to redeem themselves. Belleville's Caral Dial deflected a pass, which was recovered by team-

mate Carlos Clark to run out the clock, according to Belleville Coach Mike Krogel.

Although Freeman had the game-winning shot, Krogel said the Tigers won the game on the

boards and at the line.

"We out-rebounded them, 36-25, according to my count but they got us on turnovers," he said. "We had 16 turnovers to their seven and that evened the game out in that respect. The game really

See Tigers, page 10

Districts

Class A:

No. 15-A at

Romulus High School
9650 S. Wayne Rd., 48174

A—Romulus vs. Garden City at 7 p.m. on Monday March 6
B—Belleville vs. Wayne at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, March 8
John Glenn vs. A at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, March 8
Final—7 p.m. on Friday, March 10

No. 25-A at Novi High School

A—Novi-Detroit Catholic Central vs. Northville at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 6
B—Canton vs. Novi at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 6
Salem vs. of A at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8
Plymouth vs. B at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8
Final—7 p.m. on Friday, March 10

Class C:

No. 70-C at Romulus-Summit Academy North High School

A—Monroe-St Mary Catholic Central vs. Ecorse at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 6
B—Romulus-Summit Academy North vs. Flat Rock at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7
Riverview-Gabriel-Richard vs. A at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8
Inkster-Cherryhill School of Performing Arts vs. B at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 9
Final—at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 11

No. 71-C at Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard High School

A—Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard vs. Dearborn-Henry Ford at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 6
B—Dearborn-Advanced Technology vs. Detroit Community at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 6
Inkster vs. B at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8
Ann Arbor-Greenhills vs. A at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8
Final—at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 10

Class D:

No. 106- at Westland-Huron Valley Lutheran High School

A—Lutheran HS Westland vs. Detroit-Westside Christian Academy at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 6
B—Detroit Urban Lutheran vs. Canton-Plymouth Christian Academy at 8 p.m. on Monday, March 6
C—Westland-Huron Valley Lutheran vs. Redford Covenant at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7
Canton-Agape Christian Academy vs. the winner of A at 6:30 pm on Thursday, March 9
B vs. C at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 9
Final—at 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 10.



Plymouth holds off Wayne

Despite being down four points at halftime, the Plymouth Wildcats overcame the deficit and defeated the Wayne Memorial Zebras, 58-51 Friday night. Plymouth outscored the Zebras, 18-14, in the third quarter to knot the game at 42. They remained strong in the final frame to carry the victory. Brandon Roberts scored 12 for Plymouth and Josh Le Duc added 11. Brent Jones put in 10. "We shot the ball well and had all 11 kids score and contribute, which is always good," said Plymouth Coach Tom VanWagoner. Wayne's Justin Collop (above, 22) led all scorers with 19, including three triples. John Hill added 10. Plymouth will play the winner of the Canton-Novl game in the district tournament at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8 at Novi High School. Wayne will play Belleville at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, March 8 at Romulus High School.

SPORTS

Canton Chiefs hoopsters fall to athletic Vikings

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Western Lakes basketball tournament brought out the best in teams last week as they battled for a chance at the championship.

The Canton Chiefs played a stellar game against the Walled Lake Central Vikings on Friday but couldn't finish them off and lost, 56-51.

It looked promising for the Chiefs in the first half, especially the second quarter. They trailed at the end of the first, 14-10, but they outscored the Vikings in the second to make it a four-point game in their favor, 29-25.

After the half-time intermission, Canton scored 11 in the

each of the remaining quarters but it was no match for the awakened Central offense. The Vikings scored 17 in the third period to give them a two-point lead, 42-40, heading into the final session.

Canton's Steve Paye opened the fourth with a three-point play, putting Canton on top, 43-42. The rest of the game was a struggle as the teams traded shots, but Central squeezed out a three-point lead with about 20 seconds left on the clock. Canton tried for a triple but missed and had to foul the rest of the way, giving Central the 56-51 victory.

"It was a tight game and played really well by both teams," said Canton Coach Charlie Paye. "We only turned

the ball over eight times and they were around the same so it was a well-played game. We had our chances but couldn't capitalize.

"They are a good team and I knew we were going to have to play our best game of the year to win," he added. "I do think we played them better than we did the first time."

Central senior center Chris Farr routed Canton for 20 points in the contest. Senior guard Neil Mitchell added 13.

Canton did what they do best, which is spread the ball around. They had three players in double figures. Senior forwards Andy Larsen and Andre Bridges each scored 15 for the Chiefs. Larsen was 6-of-9 from the field

and 3-of-4 from the line. He also grabbed six rebounds.

Ryan Waidmann finished with 10. Steve Paye ended with five points, five rebounds and three assists.

Canton 61, Northern 53

On Tuesday, for the second time in five days, Canton took on the Knights of Walled Lake Northern. Canton won both contests.

The Chiefs showed good chemistry and teamwork in the group effort. This time four different players reached double figures.

Waidmann led with 14 while Steve Paye, Larsen and Bridges all added 11. Josh Butler was close to double with nine.

It was 14-14 draw at the end

of the first but Canton got their offense going in the second, outscoring Northern, 16-11. The Chiefs extended that lead after halftime. They scored 15 to the Knights' nine in the third for a 45-34 advantage heading into the final eight minutes.

Northern outscored Canton, 19-16, in the final quarter but it wasn't enough.

Canton faced off against Livonia Stevenson last night, battling it out for third place in the conference tournament, but the results were unavailable at press time.

Their next match is against a formidable Novi team at Novi at 7 p.m. on Monday for the first round of the district tournament.

Tigers

FROM PAGE 9

came down to free throws. We were 12-of-19 and they were three of seven—that's where the game was won. The kids did a nice job taking the ball to the hole and drawing the foul."

Belleville was off to a quick start, with a 19-11 lead after one period of play. Ypsi's defense took over in the second, holding Belleville to just seven points while their offense scored 15. At the end of the second quarter the score was knotted at 26.

The Tigers went on a 10-0 run to start the third session that helped them regain the lead, 39-35, heading into the final round.

The teams traded leads in the fourth. Ypsi senior C.J. Simmons went to the line in the final minute of play and missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity, which set the stage for Freeman's game-winning shot.

Freeman led Belleville with 20 points. He also mustered up eight rebounds and three steals. Clark

added 15 points and seven rebounds while Mike Donaldson knocked down 11 points, including a tip-in that gave Belleville a 42-41 lead. Donaldson also had six rebounds.

Marius Williams had a solid all-around game with two points, four rebounds, eight assists and two steals. Mike Gibson was fierce on the boards with eight rebounds to go with his two points and three blocked shots.

Payne and Simmons each scored 17 for Ypsilanti.

Belleville 46, Truman 53

Belleville proved that they are a much better team when they have all of their players eligible to play.

In last Tuesday's contest they were without Freeman and the team floundered to a 53-46 loss at Taylor Truman.

But that's how it has been the entire season. In their four losses the Tigers were without key players. Freeman and Gibson didn't play in their first loss against Inkster at the start of the season. In the two losses during the holiday break, Belleville was without Dial. Then again they were with-

out Freeman last Tuesday.

"It's a little easier playing when everyone is there," Krogel said. "We can't afford to miss anybody."

Belleville started out slow against the Cougars, trailing 9-4 after one quarter and 19-15 at the half. Taylor outscored Belleville 34-31 the rest of the way.

Clark led Belleville with 13 points and eight rebounds. Brandon Bowdry scored 18 and grabbed 12 rebounds for Truman. Paul Reyes added 16 and Marcus Knott 15.

Belleville will host River Rouge in the regular season finale at 7 p.m. on Friday.

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Mustangs

FROM PAGE 9

Branch led Western with 21 (14 in the first half). Mike Roberts had 13 and Evan

Onder added 12.

The Mustangs played for the Western Lakes tournament last night but the results were unavailable at press time.

They play Novi-Detroit Catholic Central at 5 p.m. on Monday at Novi High School in the first round of district play.

"Pic of the Week"



First Communion

Michael Reynolds
Photography

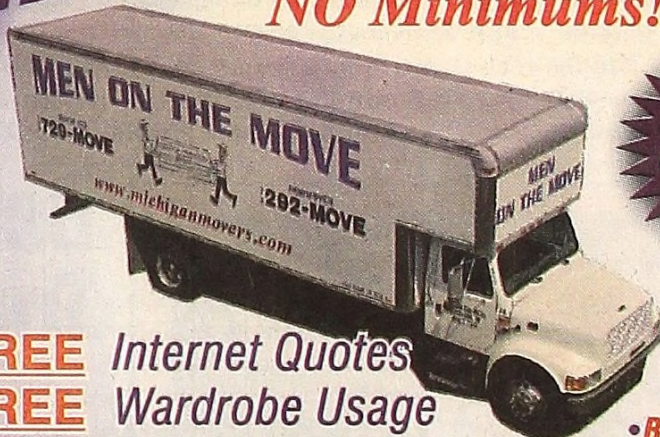
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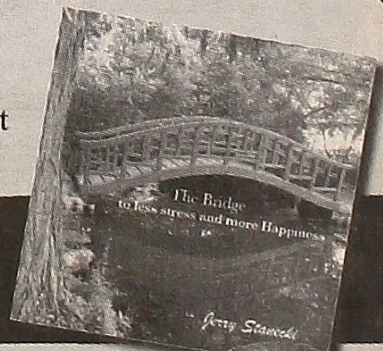
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SPORTS

Eurostars gymnastics excel in competitions

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Boys from the Plymouth-based Eurostars gymnastics program excelled over the weekend at the Interactivity gymnastics meet held in Zionsville, Indiana.

More than 200 gymnasts from 20 gyms in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan participated in the meet that took place on Saturday and Sunday.

Eurostars had two gymnasts that performed at Level 4. Andrew Lytle placed fourth All-Around in the 6-and 7-year-old age group while Daisuke Jimenez took the top spot in the 8-to 9-year-old age group All-Around.

The Level 5 Boys team won first place overall. The team scored 170.9 out of a possible 180 for the honors. Members of the team included Logan Pierce, who also placed second All-Around at age 12 and over; David Norin; Lucas Schmidt; Charlie Dillon, who finished at the top of the All-Around for the 8- and 9-year-old age group; Anthony Guerguiev (5th All Around at age 8-9); Taylor Burris (3rd All Around at age 8-9); and Justin Baker (2nd All Around at age 8-9).

The Boys' Level 5 team won many individual awards but the day was definitely topped off by Dillon who received a rare and



Eurostars gymnasts celebrate their win at the Cereal City meet earlier this season. The gym's teams competed well at the more recent Interactivity gymnastics meet held in Zionsville, Indiana. Pictured are: (first row) Charlie Dillon, Taylor Burris, Justin Baker, Anthony Guerguiev (back row) Logan Pierce, Coach Andy Suhayda, Lucas Schmidt and David Norin.

perfect 10 on the pommel horse.

"Charlie had an excellent routine," said Eurostars owner Peter Gueorguiev. "We are very proud of him as this is the first 10 ever scored on our boys program."

The boys have placed first in

four meets and second in three meets so far this year.

"Although the boys Level 5 team has placed first or second in all of our meets this season, this was definitely their strongest showing," said Coach Andrew Suhayda. "Their hard work and

enthusiasm at practice is showing in our meet results".

Eurostars had two gymnasts performing at Level 6. Jack Lytle placed first all-around in the 8-9 age group and Hanzo Jimenez placed first in the 10-11 age group.

Northville swimmers win Western Lakes conference meet

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Northville swim team routed competition in the Western Lakes Activities Association Conference meet last week.

The Mustangs finished the three days of competition with 628 points followed by Livonia Stevenson (541.5) and Canton (375) in second and third. Salem placed fifth (179) and Wayne (149), Plymouth (141.5) and John Glenn (126) finished in ninth, 10th and 11th places respectively.

Northville swimmers took the top spot in all but two of the individual events.

Mustang senior Brad Farris swam the 100-yard butterfly event with a finals time of 52.10 for first. Stevenson's senior Steve Bruestle was the closest competitor with a time of 53.66. Canton's senior Shogo Uno finished sixth (55.66) and Plymouth senior Andy Knisely finished seventh (56.48).

In the 100-yard freestyle competition, Northville's Chris Keady, a junior, took the number one slot with a blistering 47.64 time. Stevenson junior Travis Hatt was nearly a second behind for second (48.34). John Glenn senior Nick Stone placed fifth (49.15), Salem junior Nick Leone finished sixth (50.09) and Canton's Matt Carlson (50.9) and Derek Schmitt (50.92) followed in seventh and eighth.

Northville took three of the top five spots in the 500-yard freestyle.

Junior Chris Culkin captured first for the school with a time of 4:43.28. Fellow

junior Will Bickle was less than a tenth of a second behind for second (4:43.37) and sophomore Greg Sheppard landed in fifth (5:09.53). Canton senior Nick Landis placed fourth (4:58.09).

Canton junior Ross Schwartz finished at the top of group B (seventh overall) with a 5:04.78 finals time. Northville also placed one-two in the 100-yard backstroke.

Sophomore Brody Bickle was number one (53.30) and Farris followed with a close 53.57 time.

Teammate John Bardsley, a sophomore, placed fifth (58.11).

Will Bickle finished second (1:58.33) in the 200-yard IM, not too far behind winner Hatt (1:57.04).

Northville senior Weston Laabs placed second (1:01.89) in the 100-yard breaststroke behind Stevenson's David Gosdzinski (1:00.58). Knisely wrapped up third (1:03.76) for Plymouth and Salem sophomore Stan Chen followed in fourth (1:04.20).

Relays:

Northville's 200-yard medley relay team of Bardsley, Weston, Brody Bickle and Jack Temple won the race in 1:36.63. Canton's team of Robert Blaesser, Matt Carlson, Uno and John Templeton finished third (1:43.79). Wayne finished sixth (1:46.36).

Stevenson won the 200-yard freestyle relay out right with a time of 1:27.21. Northville's team of Kyle Adams, Mark Stuber, Laabs and Culkin, finished two

seconds behind (1:29.24). Canton's Templeton, Chris Marinica, Matt Carlson and Schmitt team finished third (1:32.79). Salem's Leone, Nathan Spala, Jason Williams and Matt Underhill placed fifth (1:34.32).

Northville raced to first place (3:13.03) in the 400-yard freestyle relay with team members Will Bickle, Bardsley, Culkin and Stuber—almost eight seconds ahead of second-place Stevenson. Canton (Schmitt, Templeton, Landis, and Carlson) followed in third (3:22.14) and Salem

(Leone, Underhill, Spala, and Chen) ended in fifth (3:30.24).

Diving:

Walled Lake Northern senior Travis Kneale set the bar for the diving competition with an unbeatable 363.05 finals score good for 24 points and first place. Wayne senior Jarett Machovec placed second with 313.35 final score for 21 points. John Glenn junior John Witt was fourth (296.1), Northville junior Will Fankell was fifth (282.1) and Plymouth junior Justin McGill seventh (268.05).

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Western Wayne County YMCA seeks volunteers, support

The YWCA of Western Wayne County is looking for new faces and helping hands to volunteer at various locations throughout western Wayne County.

Volunteers are needed in administrative roles to answer phones, file paperwork and make copies.

Helping hands are needed for building maintenance projects like painting, waxing floors and landscaping.

The Young Friends After School program in the Wayne-

”

Volunteers are such an important part of this organization.

Karen Murphy

Westland School District also needs help weekdays after school. The programs allow students time for homework, group discussion and recreation.

“Volunteers are such an important part of this organization, and their hard work helps keep it running smoothly,” said Karen Murphy, Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA of Western Wayne County.

For more information about volunteering, contact Ann Marie Fortunate at the YWCA at (313) 561-4110 extension 20.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 21, 2006

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman and Trustee Jahr. Absent and excused: Trustee Rochowiak. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Public Safety Director Champagne, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of eleven (11).

Supervisor King requested a moment of silence be held in honor of former Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara and former Van Buren Township Supervisor R. Lynne Hamilton who both recently passed away.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Under Minutes add “Closed Session Minutes of February 6, 2006.” Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Payne seconded to open the public hearing to receive comment on the special use request to construct and operate an automobile dealership on a parcel of land known as V125-83-039-99-0009-717, zoned C-1 (General Business), and located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Belleville and Tyler Roads. Carried.

Supervisor King went to Director Kelley for an explanation. Director Kelley stated the second public hearing tonight is for the abutting property and the site plan brought before the Planning Commission was one development addressing both parcels of land each requiring special use approval from the Board. The proposed site of Atchison Ford dealership is on a 9.1 acre parcel of land located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Belleville and Tyler Roads. The 24,000 square foot masonry building will resemble that of the old style Ford dealership including a new car showroom, service bays and a service and parts department. Automobile dealerships are only permitted after special use approval by the Township in C-1 General Business Districts. The Planning Commission held public hearings on June 8, 2005, July 17, 2005 and February 8, 2006 and recommends the special use approval. The street improvements would be similar to the DDA landscaping along Belleville Road including the brick monuments. The landscaping would include trees with branches cut high so the automobiles displayed could be seen from the road, with additional landscaping in the middle of the development. The adjacent parcel of land special use request is for a drive-thru window for a bank facility to be located in a 24,000 square foot retail development. The entire development has one road access on Tyler Road which lines up with the Meijer entrance across the road and three road accesses on Belleville Road. The Planning Commission, traffic consultants and Wayne County Roads input led to the three accesses on Belleville Road to allow easier access to car haulers for unloading automobiles. The adjacent retail building would be a temporary design with a wood canopy which would include a bank located at the eastern portion of the retail building and a convenience store.

Board members made the following comments. Trustee Hart complimented the applicant on the landscaping which includes corner monument columns similar to the rest of the Belleville Road streetscape. He further stated he appreciated the current Ford dealership reinvesting in the township. Supervisor King stated the Board was provided with the following documents: the entire site plan, letters from the township’s planners McKenna and Associates, engineer’s Wade-Trim, traffic’s consultants Tetra Tech, Inc., and the Planning Commission minutes and comments. She further stated there was lengthy discussion during the Work Study Session held by the Board.

The architect presented drawings of the development and reviewed the features of the development.

Supervisor King stated with the difficulties in the automobile industry she appreciated the Ford dealership expansion in the township. Trustee Hart stated he had safety concerns about the first cut on Belleville Road regarding left turns. The architect stated there will be a traffic light to be placed by the development and Wayne County Roads will review and approve the road improvements. In addition, the development has cross access land easements with the adjacent parcels for future development.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Jahr moved, Herman seconded to open the public hearing to receive comment on the special use request to construct and operate a drive-thru window on a parcel of land known as V125-83-039-99-0009-716, zoned C-1 (General Business), and located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Belleville and Tyler Roads. Carried.

Supervisor King went to Director Kelley for an explanation. Director Kelley stated the primary facts were covered in the first public hearing and that the next step if the two special uses are approved tonight would be final approval by the Planning Commission of the site plan application with detailed engineering plan. He further stated if there were any changes to either special use the special use would have to come back to the Board for approval.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Jahr moved, Payne seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of February 6, 2006 as presented. Carried.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 6, 2006 as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2006 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: On February 22nd at 7:30 p.m. the Planning Commission invites the public to attend and participate in a meeting and discussion as part of the Planning Commission’s project to update the Master Land Use Plan for the southern half of Van Buren Township, between the I-94 Corridor and Bemis Road to the south; and Rawsonville Road to the west to Hannan Road on the east. The meeting will be held at South Middle School located at 45201 Owen Street. For further information, residents can contact the Department of Developmental Services at 734.699.8913 or visit www.VanBurenMP.com.

Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Huron High School located at 32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston in Huron Township. For more information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734.326.3936.

On Tuesday, February 28th the Belleville Rotary will be hosting an Italian Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Eagles Hall on Beck Road.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Herman moved, Hart seconded to approve the special use approval to Pacific Centers, L.L.C. I. to construct and operate an automobile dealership facility on a parcel of land known as V125-83-039-00-0009-717, zoned C-1 (General Business), and located near the northeast corner of the intersection of Belleville and Tyler Roads, subject to the facts and findings of the Planning Commission, the planning consultant’s recommendation in letter dated February 9, 2006 and the engineer’s recommendation of July 21, 2005. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to approve the special use approval to Pacific Centers, L.L.C. I. to construct and operate a drive-thru facility in connection with a bank operation on a parcel of land known as V125-83-039-00-0009-716, zoned C-1 (General Business), and located near the northeast corner of the intersection of Belleville and Tyler Roads, subject to the facts and findings of the Planning Commission, the planning consultant’s recommendation in letter dated February 9, 2006 and the engineer’s recommendation of July 21, 2005. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the reappointments of Joy Ann Ferris, Beverly Jenkins, Loretta Speaks, Keith Johnston, and Ken Askew to the Recreation Committee with Ken Askew continuing to serve as representative to the Open Space Committee and to approve the appointment of Harold Gant to the Recreation Committee with all terms to expire February 28, 2007. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the February 21, 2006 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the January 2006 Public Safety Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Payne announced Supervisor King received the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) Local Elected Official of the Year Award during the MRPA conference.

There is an election on Tuesday, February 28, 2006 for residents residing in the Van Buren Public School District. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots are available in the Clerk’s Office. In addition, the Clerk’s Office will be open on Saturday, February 25th from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For additional information contact the Clerk’s Office at 734.699.8909.

Harold Gant thanked the Board for his appointment to the Recreation Committee and stated he was involved in the MRPA exhibit hall displays.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): A Harmony Lane resident expressed his thoughts and concerns regarding an addition to a home located next to his home.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Payne seconded to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: March 2, 2006

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121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries



LEATHERWOOD, Barbara Jackson, age 66 of Hephzibah, beloved wife of SGM (Ret) Matthew Leatherwood, Sr., entered into rest February 17, 2006 at Eisenhower Army Medical Center. Funeral service was held on Thursday, February 23, 2006 at 11 a.m. at the Bicentennial Chapel. Ft. Gordon, with Rev. Gary Kerr officiating. Burial will be at Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Milledgeville, GA. Mrs. Leatherwood, a native of Inkster, Michigan, was a graduate of Paine College. She worked with the American Red Cross as a caseworker, with Army Community Service as the Outreach Program Coordinator, at V.A. Medical Center as an LPN, and after retirement as a substitute teacher in Richmond County. Her humanitarian efforts were recognized over the years and her awards and honors include the CSRA United Way Vogtle Award, the American Red Cross Clara Barton Medal, Georgia's Foster Parent of the Year, and the USO's Great American Family Award. As a military spouse, she lived all over the world including Thailand and Germany. Mrs. Leatherwood enjoyed helping people and empowering them to help themselves. Over the course of life, she met countless numbers of people, touched many lives, and forged many friendships. Preceding her in death were her father, Horace Jackson, Sr., step-father, Robert Lewis, and brother, Milton Jackson. She is survived by three sons, Malcolm Leatherwood of Lexington, KY, Matthew Leatherwood, Jr. of Fayetteville, NC, and Jason Leatherwood of Hephzibah, GA; two grandchildren, Nicholas Leatherwood of Killeen, TX, and Cheyenne Shanice of Germany; four great-grandchildren; her mother, Willie Mae Lewis of Lexington, KY; five sisters, Sandra Bailey and Gail Richardson of Inkster, MI, Yvonne Kirkpatrick of Farmington, MI, Brenda Hall of Farmington Hills, MI, and Valerie Jackson of Lexington, KY; two brothers, Horace Jackson of Wayne, MI, Wayne Jackson of Canton, MI. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Barbara J. Leatherwood Scholarship Fund, c/o Ft. Gordon Service Club, P.O.

Box 7289, Ft. Gordon, GA 30905, to benefit a junior enlisted spouse and a Paine College bound student. Arrangements entrusted to Williams Funeral Home, 2945 Old Tobacco Rd., Hephzibah, GA 30815

GIBSON, Thelma L., age 70 of Romulus, died February 21, 2006 at her home. Beloved wife of the late Henry Gibson who preceded her in death on October 1, 1993. Dear mother of Juan Gibson of Cleveland, Ohio, Fatima Carter of Romulus, Henry (Debbie) Gibson of Belleville, and James Gibson of Traverse City, Michigan. Thelma was born February 13, 1936 in Detroit, MI., the daughter of the late John and Florence (Stockham) Gay. Thelma was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Henry, and her sister Shirley. She is survived by her sisters; Beth Brison of Garden City, Janice Gay and Joyce Gay, 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Thelma enjoyed spending time with her

family and friends. She was a wonderful cook who made the best chicken and macaroni & cheese dishes. Funeral services were held Friday, February 24, 2006 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, in Belleville, MI., with Reverend Lance Witham officiating. Interment in Metropolitan Memorial Gardens, Sumpter Township, MI.

30. Help Wanted

Child Care assistant FT & PT individuals needed to implement a Christian program encompassing art, singing and story reading. Child care experience required. Call Dorene at: 734-697-2985

Direct Care Staff positions in Belleville group home. Must be over 21 years of age, have current driver's license w/good driving record and high school diploma or GED. Nursing home exp. helpful. Will train. Call (585)298-3568

2. In Memoriam



What Our Mother Taught Us
To My Sons and Daughters

*I have some things I'd like to say
Some things that you should know*

*I've made mistakes in things I've done, and for them I have paid
And I don't want to see you make, the same ones that I have made.*

*Be kind to every human soul, give freely of your time, and self
And stay away from Greed.*

*Respect your country, love her too, it is your land of birth,
There is no greater nation on the whole face of this earth.*

*When elders speak, pray lend an ear to what they have to say,
The knowledge they impart to you will help you on your way.*

*And most of all, believe in God, whatever you may do,
Give Him your trust, and hope and faith, for He will stand by you.*

*It isn't much to leave you, but I wanted you to know,
It's all I have to give you from one who loves you so.*

Author: Bill Carr

In Loving Memory Of:

Margaret Patricia Hance-Miller
Born March 15, 1933
Kiel Ballymahon, Ireland
Passed away February 23, 2005
Detroit, Michigan

And her son:

Michael Keith Miller
Born May 24, 1955
Passed away July 31, 2005

HELP WANTED:
MICHIGAN CERTIFIED
MECHANIC
Start your career with a company that has affiliation with over 250 dealers. Please phone 734-641-8100 and answer a few simple questions and we will set-up an interview

34. Specialized Services

Need help looking for someone in your family tree? Want to know where great-grandpa was born? Local genealogy services available at very reasonable rates. Call 734-260-1069 for more info.

Russian housekeeper will clean your house or office. Hard working, honest, punctual. References available. Free estimates (313) 282-7990

6. Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE
SALE OF FORFEITURE VEHICLES

The Northville City Police Dept. will be accepting bids for the following vehicles: 1995 Dodge Neon; 1989 Chevrolet Camaro; 1986 Subaru Wagon. Informational packets are available at Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main, Northville, MI or at:

www.ci.northville.mi.us/services/purchasing/andrfps/proposalsbid.html

BID DEADLINE: March 14, 2006, 2:00PM

LEGAL NOTICE
J.S. VIG CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

The J. S. Vig Construction Company has been selected as the Construction Manager for the new Romulus Recreation Center facility, and is soliciting bid proposals from qualified subcontractors for the **excavation, site utilities, concrete flatwork and foundations, masonry and metal siding.** Specifications and drawings are available at our office for your use. A \$50.00 refundable deposit is required for each set of documents. Bid proposals are due Tuesday, **March 7, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.** at J. S. Vig Construction Company 16650 Racho Road, in Taylor, MI (734) 283-3002. Bids can be submitted via fax, mail or hand delivered.

Worship Directory

Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church
DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. McCLENDON, PASTOR

Sunday { Sunday Morning Prayer (8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.)
Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.)
Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) }

****Nursery Room Available for Children 4 Years of Age and Under****
29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833

Sunday School 10A.M. - Service 11A.M.
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30P.M.
Pastor Earl Duncan

Morningstar Church
28563 Pardo
Garden City, MI 48135
734-367-3029

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 3/23/06 at 1:30PM, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:
The Storroom Self Storage40600 Michigan Ave.Canton, MI

Unit #616 Ramon Ramos
3 Misc. small appl.
6 Hshld. furnishings
10 Misc. boxes/bags
2 Hand tools
10 Recreation equip.
1 Office equipment
6 Other misc. items

Unit #1413
Johnnie D. Stivers
1 Stove, 1 Refrigerator
9 Hshld. furnishings
50 Misc. boxes/bags
30 Hand tools, 1 TV
10 Power tools
2 Recreation equip.
1 Electric road sign
Small engine parts
3 Other misc. items

Unit #1008B
Wanna Johnson
25 Misc. boxes/bafs
10 Other misc. items

Notice is hereby given that on 3/22/06 at 1:00PM the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

Stor-N-Lock
7840 N. Wayne Rd.
Westland, MI

Unit #H-2D
Richard Stewart
4 Hshld. Furnishings
3 Misc. hshld. goods

8 Misc. boxes/bags
2 Recreation equip.
5 Other Misc. items

Unit #F-27 Kevin Conrady
1 Washer, 1 Dryer
1 Misc sm. appliance
11 Hshld. furnishings
1 TV, 1 Power tool
6 Misc. hshld. goods
6 Other misc. items

Unit #B-9
Darrel Ringwelski
4 Hshld. furnishings
4 Misc. hshld. goods
3 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Recreation equip.
2 Exercise equipment
6 Other misc. items

32. Help Wanted



Wise Up!

IT'S TIME TO FIND AN EXCITING NEW CAREER

WE ARE LOOKING FOR TALENTED INDIVIDUALS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

REPORTERS

Send your resume via; Fax, E-Mail, or U.S. Mail Along with a cover letter to:
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35540 Michigan Ave.
Wayne, MI 48184
Fax: (734) 729-1840
editor@journalgroup.com
EXPERIENCE A PLUS...ENTHUSIASM A MUST!
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34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC
COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956

Remodeling • Service • City Repairs

 **734-722-0037** 
35728 Van Born • Wayne

46. Private Schools/Instruction

Discovery Academy



Now Enrolling
Grades K-5
For our 2006-2007
School year.
Enrollment
begins 2/6/06

For more information, please call
313-827-0762
27355 Woodsfield, Inkster, MI 48141

57. Antiques

Motor City Antiques
Hours: Tues. - Sat. 10 - 6 Sun. Noon - 6
(3431 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock MI 48134 (734) 782-4018
17,000 Sq. Ft. of Antiques & Collectibles

Over 100 Dealers
Come Visit our 950 Sq. Ft.
FURNITURE ALLEY
Hours: Tues-Sat 10-6, Sun Noon-6

Unit #F-5
David Graciak
1 Hand tool
3 Other misc. items
6 Vending machines

Unit #F-26
Cheryl Miller
2 Misc. sm. appliances
10 Hshld. furnishings
4 Misc. hshld. goods
50 Misc. boxes/bags
3 Hand tools
5 Recreation equip.
5 Other misc. items

Unit #E-28
Kiwahtha Boyd
4 Misc. sm. appliances
1 TV, 20 Clothing
16 Hshld. furnishings
4 Misc. hshld. goods
10 Misc. boxes/bags
6 Other misc. items

Unit #M-36
Reggie Simmons
4 Hshld. furnishings
7 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Power tool
3 Hand tools
5 Clothing
3 Recreation equip.
4 Other misc. items

Unit #G-8
Sharon Justin
10 Hshld. furnishings
16 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Exercise equip.
4 Other misc. items

Unit #J-28
Donald Bell
10 Hshld. furnishings
5 Misc. hshld. goods
30 Misc. boxes/bags
10 Recreation equip.
6 Other misc. items

Unit #J-12
Lonique Steele
1 Washer, 3 Clothing
4 Hshld. furnishings
7 Misc. boxes/bags
2 Other misc. items

Unit #G-13
Jason Seibel
3 Hshld. furnishings
2 Other misc. items

Unit #J-24
Priscilla Crawford
1 Misc. sm. appliance
11 Hshld. furnishings
3 Misc. hshld. goods
28 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Office equipment
5 Other misc. items
6 Toys

Unit #N-1G
Ronald Fox Jr.
3 Hshld. furnishings
30 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Power tools
2 Recreation equip.
10 Other misc. items

Unit #D-3
Brenda Hannum-Harvey
12 Hshld. furnishings
8 Misc. hshld. goods
25 Misc. boxes/bags
20 Clothing
2 Office equipment
10 Other misc. items

Unit #N-1B
Allyson Hardy
1 TV, 24 Misc. boxes/bags
5 Other misc. items

Unit #D-25
Ian Cowen
1 Stove, 4 Hand tools
3 Misc. sm. appliances
9 Hshld. furnishings
30 Misc. boxes/bags
1 Office equipment
4 Exercise equipment
12 Other misc. items

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On MARCH 7, 2006 the
Westland Police
Department will conduct
public auctions of
impounded abandoned
vehicles. The auction will
begin promptly at 11:00am
at Westland Car Care,
6375 Hix Rd., Westland,

MI, County of Wayne,
where the following vehi-
cles will be offered for sale
to the highest bidder:

1995 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Green
1FALP52U8SG247546

1988 Ford F-150
PU Trk Blue/Gray
2FTDF15Y0JCA70922

2003 Hummer H-2
Sta Wgn Black
5GRGN23U23H134703

1988 Honda Accord
4 Dr White
1HGCA553JA128158

All vehicles are sold in "as
is" condition. Bidding on
all vehicles will start at the
amount due for towing and
storage. Vehicles may be
deleted from this list at any
time prior to the start of the
auction.

61. Misc. Items

(NEW) Sofa and Loveseat
Set. Micro-Fiber that feels
and looks like Suede. All
brand "NEW" in crate
w/lifetime warranty and
fabric protection.
Delivery Available
\$495.00
(734) 326-2744

Downsizing
Must Sell!
Dining room set-table
w/leaf, 6 cushioned chairs
& beautiful 6.5' lighted
hutch-\$300
Large bedroom dresser
w/mirror-\$200
Girl's bedroom set-head-
board, bed frame, desk &
chest of drawers-\$200
Must Sell!
No Reasonable
Offer Refused
248-349-0228

NEW 5 Pc. Cherry
Bedroom Suite.
All brand NEW in boxes.
Headboard (Full-Queen),
Night Stand, Chest,
Dresser and Landscape
Mirror.
\$495.00
Delivery Available.
(734) 637-2012

Pillow Top Mattress Set.
Brand NEW
with full factory warranty
in plastic.
Full Size \$170
Queen Size \$195
King Size \$280
(734) 721-3799

To Buy or Sell Used
Furniture, Go To:
www.neighborhoodfurniture.com

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel
Low daily and weekly rates
Refrigerator, microwave,
HBO. Call 734-721-1220,
Tel-96 Inn-313-535-4100
Fairlane in Novi
248-347-9999

Furnished, AC, Cable
No deposit/No Utilities
Michigan Ave. bus lines
\$75/week
Call: 734-377-2549

88. Duplexes For Rent

Norwayne
2 Bedrooms
Freshly decorated, walking
distance to schools
\$580/mon.
1 1/2 mon. Sec. dep.
Call 248-819-8285

WAYNE
Victorian Style
2 Bedroom upper flat
No pets. \$595/month
plus security.
734-326-5025

WAYNE
Beautiful 2-bedroom
duplex, w/dining room,
full basement, C/A
\$700/month
\$1,760 move-in
No Pets
734-427-7545

WESTLAND
Norwayne unit, 3 Bdrm
Newly remodeled
\$675/mon. plus sec.
Call 734-981-4721
ask for Julia

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE

Call for list of
available 2 & 3 BR
duplexes, and single
family homes. Section
8 welcome. Lead safe
units available.
Professional full-time
management.
Norplex Associates
734-722-6444
EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

PLYMOUTH
Spacious 1 bedroom
Heat & water inc.
All Appliances
Assigned parking
Courtyard view
\$620/month
734-453-0885

WAYNE
Near Wayne Road Very
quiet and clean
1-bedroom. Heat and
water included.
Ideal for singles and
retirees.
No Pets
\$450/month
with approved credit
Sec. 8 welcome
313-561-9818
or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI
Quiet 1 Bedroom
Well maintained
Heat/water/A/C inc.
No pets
Great for singles & retirees
\$470/month
Call a manager @
734-729-2108 or
734-718-9521
or owner @
734-878-0859

90. Condos/Town- houses for Rent

CANTON
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath
in Plymouth Landing
All appliances, no pets
No smoking
\$700/mo.
Call 734-453-3737

CANTON
Single lifestyle!
2 br, 2 ba, galley kitchen,
fireplace in living room and
master suite. All stainless
steel appliances inc. New
construction.
Call 313-623-2664
for details

95. Real Estate

INVESTOR SPECIALS
Solid Leads, Great Deals
Rehab, Lease Option,
Wholesale
Call Mike at:
734-455-7400

96. Houses For Rent

INKSTER
2 BDRM w/full basement
Aluminum sided
Move-in condition
\$720/mon. inc. appl.
\$900 Sec. Dep.
Sec. 8 welcome
Call: 734-564-1810

INKSTER
3 Bedroom, garage
Newly remodeled
\$650

INKSTER
4 Bedroom, garage
Fenced, Sec. 8 ok
\$600

Many omes Available

RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

New housing available for
people with developmental
disabilities.
Subsidized by the U.S.
Department of HUD, this
barrier-free housing will be
available May, 2006. Each
3 bedroom home to be
occupied by single per-
sons who are low-income
and have a developmental
disability. For more infor-
mation or application to be
placed on waiting list, call
Liberty Hill Housing
Corporation,
734-722-4980.

ROMULUS
3 Bedroom, air
Appliances, pets ok
\$750

ROMULUS
Bungalow, air
Fireplace, large lot
\$725

RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

ROMULUS
2 Houses for rent
I-94 and Wayne Rd.
3 Bedroom, full basement,
2 car garage,
no pets
\$750-\$1150/month
734-657-3267

WAYNE
Available Now!
Fenced 4 pets, hardwood
\$725

WAYNE
3 Bedroom, appliances
Air, remodeled, fenced
\$795

All Cities Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WESTLAND
Air, garage
Fenced 4 pets
Option 2 Buy
\$650

WESTLAND
3 Bedroom, 1.5 baths
Air, remodeled
\$750

Several Homes
Available
RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

97. Cottages For Rent

New Waterfront Condo
Northern Mich.
near Charlevoix
Close to 5 ski resorts
2200 Sq. Ft.
3.5 baths - sleeps 6-8
Boat slip included
\$279,000
Call 734-416-9039 or
734-844-8454
www.hanleylakecove.com

106. Houses For Sale

INKSTER
Super clean,
2 bedroom brick ranch
On huge lot. Newly
carpeted and painted
Updated bath,
New furnace and C/A
Partially finished basement
w/additional BR and full
bath, huge Florida room
2.5 attached garage
C of O by seller
Immediate Occupancy
Owner is anxious to sell
\$88,700
Dave Abdallah
Century 21
313-274-7200

ROMULUS

5906 Wayne Rd.
\$169,900
3 BDR, Den, Dining room,
kitchen, living room w/fire-
place, full attic, 2-car
garage w/loft, finished
basement w/laundry, bar
and bath, new roof, freshly
painted exterior, full oak
trim, refinished oak floors
in den, living room and
dining room, ceramic
floors in bath and kitchen,
new carpet in bdrms, jet-
ted bath-tub, new paint
throughout, new lighting
fixtures,
new counter tops and van-
ity, Lot size 60x693
Contact Chris at:
734-730-3592

WAYNE
SALE OR RENT-TO-OWN
Updated Inside & Out
4BR, 1BTH, Fenced
Great Starter Home!
Call Mike at:
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112. Commercial Lease

Office Space for Lease
Downtown Wayne
Located on Mich. Ave.
Call 734-729-4555 for
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PRINT ATTRACTS
MORE READERS!
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89. Apartments for Rent

Attention Seniors
Westgate Tower
is now offering
One Bedroom Apartments for
Persons 62 and older starting at
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and receive a
FREE GIFT!
Call (734) 729-2900
 **Equal Housing Opportunity** &
*income limits apply

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Inkster-Adult Community • Modern Apartments
FROM
\$450/mo. Over 640 Sq. Ft.
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\$99.00 Security Deposit w/approved credit
Central Air & Heat • Garbage Disposal
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to Metro Airport, Amtrak, Ford Village
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Funeral
DIRECTORY

FOOD

give your baking a Swirl

From top left: Chocolate-Peanut Butter Dream Cookies, Swirled Cheesecake Nibbles and Caramel-Almond Coconut Cake

Chocolate-Peanut Butter Dream Cookies

Makes about 4 dozen cookies

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup Nestlé Toll House Baking Cocoa
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 1 2/3 cups (10-ounce package) Nestlé Toll House Swirled Milk Chocolate & Peanut Butter Morsels, divided
- 1/2 cup chopped peanuts (optional).

PREHEAT oven to 325°F.

COMBINE flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in 1 cup morsels and peanuts. Drop by well-rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased baking sheets. Press down slightly. Top with remaining morsels.

BAKE 11 to 13 minutes or until cookies are puffed and centers are set. Cool on baking sheets 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Swirled Cheesecake Nibbles

Makes 3 dozen mini cheesecakes

- 36 vanilla wafers
- 1 2/3 cups (10-ounce package) Nestlé Toll House Swirled Real Semi-Sweet & White Chocolate Morsels, divided
- 2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Place 36 2-inch foil bake cups on baking sheet(s) with sides. Place one vanilla wafer, flat-side down, on bottom of each cup. Place 5 to 6 morsels on top of each wafer. BEAT cream cheese, sugar and flour in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs

and vanilla extract; beat well. Spoon 1 heaping tablespoonful cream cheese mixture into each bake cup.

BAKE 15 to 17 minutes or until just set and not browned. Remove from oven to wire rack. While still warm, top cheesecakes with remaining morsels. Morsels will soften but will retain shape. Cool completely. Cover and refrigerate.

Caramel-Almond Coconut Cake

Makes 15 servings

CAKE

- 1 package (18.25 ounces) yellow cake mix with pudding
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cups water
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut

CARAMEL-ALMOND TOPPING

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
- 1/2 cup caramel ice cream topping
- 3 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup (3 ounces) sliced almonds
- 1 cup flaked coconut
- 1 cup (6 ounces) Nestlé Toll House Swirled Milk Chocolate & Caramel Morsels

FOR CAKE:

PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Grease and flour 13 x 9-inch baking pan. BEAT cake mix, eggs, water and oil in large mixer bowl on low speed 30 seconds. Beat on high speed 2 minutes. Stir in coconut. Spoon into prepared baking pan. BAKE 28 to 35 minutes or just until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean.

FOR CARAMEL-ALMOND TOPPING:

WHILE cake is baking, prepare topping. Melt butter in medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Stir in caramel topping and cream. Stir in almonds and coconut. Increase heat to medium and bring mixture to full boil. Boil 5 minutes or until thick but still spreading consistency, stirring constantly. Carefully spread mixture over cake just as it comes out of oven. Sprinkle morsels over cake while still hot. Cool completely in pan on wire rack.

For dessert with a built-in “wow” factor, give it a swirl! When you use these new milk chocolate morsels swirled with caramel or peanut butter and semi-sweet chocolate morsels swirled with white chocolate, you can make edible works of art all your own.

With a package of Swirled morsels on hand, you can use them just like semi-sweet chocolate chips in dessert recipes of all kinds. But let your inner artist come out! Dress up your peanut butter cookies with chocolate and peanut butter swirls. Make your bar cookies or cakes even more decadent with chocolate and caramel swirls. Give chocolate and vanilla cheesecakes or other creamy desserts a “black tie” sophistication with semi-sweet chocolate and white chocolate swirls.

Customize cakes, cookies or brownies from a mix when you stir these morsels into the batter and create your own swirled polka dot design on the top. Make your favorite homemade or chef-style desserts look just as fabulous as they taste with a sweet swirl of magical chocolate.

For more yummy recipes and creative dessert tips, visit www.VeryBestBaking.com.



surprising new
Twists
on dessert

When you need a great looking and tasting dessert — FAST — try these easy ideas.

■ Make Nick of Time Swirled Brownies.

PREHEAT oven to 350°F.

Grease 13 x 9-inch baking pan. PREPARE one (19.5–19.8 ounces) package of traditional fudge brownie mix according to package directions. Stir in 1 cup Nestlé Toll House Swirled Morsels, any flavor. Spread in prepared pan. Sprinkle with 2/3 cup Swirled morsels. BAKE as directed. Cool completely in pan on wire rack. Cut into bars. Makes 24 brownies.

■ Dress up store-bought frosted cakes and cupcakes with Swirled morsels.

■ Add Swirled morsels to your candy dish.
■ Dip apples into caramel or chocolate, then dot with Swirled morsels.



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